

**District IV Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2002
www.wichita.gov**

The District IV Advisory Board Meeting was held at 7:00 P.M. at Stanley Neighborhood City Hall at 1749 S. Martinson. In attendance were the District V City Council Member Bob Martz, eight (8) District Advisory Board Members, six (6) City Staff, and twenty-one (21) citizens signing in. Approximately 35 citizens attended.

Members Present

Ed Koon
Wayne Wells
Paul Ward
Jim Benton
Rex Gray
Jerry McGinty
Bea Vickers
Iola Crandall

Members Absent

Bill Gale
Dorman Blake
Tom Kessler

Staff

Scott Logan, Traffic Engineering
Officer Drew Seiler, Patrol West
Officer Richard Mellard, Patrol West
Officer Dean, Patrol West
Officer Welsh, Patrol West
Aaron Hamilton, Neighborhood Assistant

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Sept 18, 2002 minutes were approved pending corrections 8:0 (Benton/Vickers).

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved 8:0 (Vickers/Benton).

Public Agenda

The Public Agenda contains requests from members of the public who desire to present matters to the District Advisory Board. Each presentation is limited to a period of five minutes unless extended by the Board.

- 1. Citizen stop sign request - Paul Fiscus**, Orchard Breeze, requested a discussion on the possibility of putting a stop sign at the corner of Douglas and Elder. **Fiscus** explained Elder

is the only street in the area with no stop sign from Maple to Central. **Scott Logan**, Traffic Engineer, looked at the condition of the intersection and was surprised at the number of accidents because it is not a congested area and has no congestion problem. He suggested taking a step approach. He has already issued a work order to get a larger stop sign and a sign stating that Elder does not stop. **Logan** stated the intersection meets the minimum threshold but the volume doesn't meet warrants. He wants to monitor change for six months then report back to the DAB on progress and any other steps that need to be taken.

The following are questions and comments from citizens.

Chet Lacy, 427 N. Doris owns the building at Young and St. Louis. He noted people run the stop sign and speed through that intersection all the time. **Aaron Hamilton**, Neighborhood Assistant, will alert Patrol West about people running the stop sign and speeding in the area.

The following are questions and comments from DAB members. Answers are in italics.

Jim Benton, asked for clarification: all streets have stop signs except Douglas? Why is that? *Elder is an important thoroughfare.* How long does a work order take to be acted upon? **Logan** hopes that both new signs will be up by the end of the week.

Board Action: A motion was made to revisit and get an update at the first DAB meeting in April 2003 (Ward/Vickers). The motion passed 8:0.

Public Works Agenda

2. **No items were submitted for this meeting.**

Planning Agenda

3. **No items were submitted for this meeting.**

Board Agenda

4. **Proposal for Trash Franchise - Joe Pajor, Public Works**, presented a Power Point presentation regarding the concept of city-wide franchising of trash collection. Comparisons were made to other regional cities.

The following are questions and comments from citizens with staff answers and replies in italics where applicable.

Mark McCooley, 5910 E. 2nd – Trash haulers have contract with the City until 2007. Does the City plan to void that contract as a part of this proposal? *A few years ago, the City entered into a 10-year contract with haulers. There is a cancellation provision in the contract if there is an adverse affect to the City.*

Joel Elsea - 9432 Windcroft, The current waste rate is good, but what are disposal rates? *Not sure.* It costs less in Tulsa than Wichita to have trash hauled now. *Why? No one knows*

how much it would cost here yet. Also, no one knows what everyone is currently paying. There would be less damage to roads if there would be fewer trucks.

Thomas Dyke, 2222 S. Walnut - There is less revenue generated in Charleston, South Carolina, trucks are always breaking down, and customer service is not as good because of franchising. Who would citizens go to if there were problems? *Service is an issue. Payment could be performance based.*

Paul Gray, 5943 W. 42nd S. – He lives 1.5 miles from the west transfer station. He is concerned about property value.

Jim Spencer, Division Vice President for Waste Connections – Franchising is not a new idea. Its been studied twice since 1990 by the City Council. A contract was entered into in 1997. In reference to the City's presentation about Omaha and Des Moines and the differences between them and the City of Wichita. Omaha and Des Moines did not change the market and climate. Both cities already had local trash service. Waste Connections built transfer stations up north and they purchased BFI for over \$100 million dollars. Waste Connections came to Wichita because the City said it would stay a free enterprise market. Many haulers have made major investments in the trash infrastructure. All of their investments have led to an increase in the level of service. Waste Management is not against franchising as long as it doesn't put anyone out of business. Waste Connections doesn't believe any franchising will beat the current free enterprise market, as franchising has specific limitations and regulations. Waste Connection is currently the most expensive hauler and the largest of the haulers. Price is not the only thing taken into consideration by the customers.

Kansas does not have a "Just Compensation" law. In any case of "Imminent Domain", the City would have to provide "Just Compensation" which would be well into the \$100s of millions of dollars. He believes the haulers and the City can come to a compromise. He spoke of the City closing Brooks Landfill and needing to replace Enterprise Funds lost. Waste Connection and Waste Management would be willing to work with the City to bring back old revenues. He asked the Board to recommend not supporting franchising.

David Lies, 4631 Palisade - Franchising to him is the City taking his 40-year-old family business and selling it. It could cause them to be foreclosed on. He asked the board to say no to franchising. Currently they are providing any service that the customer wants. Many towns use automated system so if the cart isn't in the right spot they won't pick it up. The City of Tulsa allows for 1/2 of 1% complaints daily. David's company has 1 or 2 per day. Half of one percent would put him out of business. He has no control over tipping fees at the transfer station. He referred to Westar and Cox Cable as examples of the effects of franchising.

Chet Lacy, 427 N. Doris - Wants freedom to choose who he wants to pick up his trash. He supports free enterprise over franchising.

Joel Elsea - Is an independent hauler. He moved to Washington D.C. then back here. He has put his life savings into his trash hauling business. They already have 800 customers. He

views franchising as putting him right out of business when he isn't doing anything wrong. He thinks without just compensation it's morally wrong. Customer satisfaction is the only thing that keeps him in business. He gave the example of a hot day, trash blows out, and he has to pick it up. If it was franchised, haulers could leave the trash and still have that customer. Trash haulers work with several other family owned, independent businesses. He thinks franchising will affect those businesses too, not just trash haulers. He is not happy with the way franchising is being presented.

The following are questions and comments from DAB members with staff answers in italics where applicable.

Paul Ward - Thought the haulers had good points but wants more citizen input.

More citizen input...

Dan Tomlinson, Des Moines, Iowa – Asked how was this meeting was announced? He thinks free enterprise is the only way to go.

Barbara Haynes - As a teacher, she teaches kids the free market system. She feels we need to keep it that way to keep options available and service expectations high.

Back to Board comments...

Wayne Ward – Is against anything that would hamper the small businessman. He thinks a task force might work and keep people in business. He suggested finding out how many customers each hauler has and split the City up 21 ways. As the City grows, let the haulers pick up and have the big haulers pick up a certain percentage. He has been with his trash hauler for 34 years and had great experiences.

Rex Gray – Is not dissatisfied with service but why are we looking at this? *The City Council asked for DAB input. Vice Mayor Martz - He and Council Member Bill Gale met with several haulers. Is there a problem or not? The Council has not made a decision. They are still seeking input. Vice Mayor Martz clarified actions: Franchising is not a done deal; it is in the questioning phase. The City does not want to take any jobs or businesses. Can we better protect small individual haulers? The City has no control over tipping fees. The City Council is in favor of local landfills lowering fees. The City has no control as the County runs trash now. Wear and tear on the streets is a big cost to infrastructure. The City wants to be part of the solution. They are not just doing this to add more money. The primary reason is to reduce citizen and infrastructure costs. Is there something we can do to keep haulers here? Five to ten years ago there were 30 haulers here, now there are only 21. The city wants to help customers and haulers.*

Koon - He grew up when people had trash pick up and free enterprise. He still believes in free enterprise, and appreciates the options available with the free enterprise system. Thinks the City should put as few restrictions on haulers as possible.

Board Action: A motion was made and approved (Koon/Benton) for the City of Wichita not to move forward with franchising 7:1 (Ward voted no).

Neighborhood Matching Grant - The McCormick Neighborhood Association submitted a request for money to help fund a neighborhood cleanup. **Barbara Haynes and Tara Stout**, co-presidents of the association presented the request which included paying for notices (1300), food for volunteers, and use of facilities. The total amount requested was \$400. Their 2001 cleanup drew over 50 volunteers. There is a deep appreciation of neighborhood clean up program by the McCormick Neighborhood Association. It is a valuable service that the City provides. **Haynes** encouraged others to take advantage of the grant program.

The following are questions and comments from the Board with answers in italics where applicable.

Ed Koon – Was this the first clean up for the neighborhood association? *No, the second.* Was the expense the same? *Very close.* What was the participation level? *About 40 people volunteered to help out. Officer Mar tried to arrange for 40 Police to come but got 40 ROTC instead. 17 middle schools Jr. ROTC's, Wichita High School South- 7 ROTC's and 16 City and neighborhood staff. Last year they hauled off 300 tires, 8 skids and 4 trucks full of junk and debris.*

Benton - How long has McCormick Neighborhood Association been in existence? *2 years in March.*

Board Action: The Board submitted rating sheets. The score indicated approval for the full amount requested (\$400).

Announcements

5. This time is for members to make announcements of any projects their neighborhoods may be working on or has completed within the last month.

Wayne Wells - Discussion took place at the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission was about the Delano Overlay. There is a Delano meeting October 15th.

Jim Benton – Southwest Village Neighborhood Association will meet Tues, October 8th. The Ice Cream Social was a success although it was a smaller turnout due to Ice Cream being served instead of food. They made \$600 to \$700 on auction.

Rex Gray – Orchard Breeze is meeting October 3rd.

Jerry McGinty - Went to the Southwest Village picnic.

Bea Vickers - Southwest Neighborhood Association will meet at Osage Park on October 22nd. October 5th there will be a clean up at 3153 S. Martinson.

Iola Crandall – Sunflower Neighborhood Association's meeting's is October 3, with Sgt. Clark Bolen at "The Arc". The November meeting will feature Council Member Gale as a speaker. Sedgwick Response 24/7 will be the speakers in December.

Paul Ward - None.

Aaron Hamilton – We will be meeting again October 16, 2002.

Officer Drew Seiler - Went to a weeklong Advanced Community Police class, which focused on public relations, time management and media relations. Quarterly meeting with the Chief, Council approved the helicopter January or March. Plan to reduce Domestic Violence in same residence. If the Police are called three times in one month, the Community Police and Domestic Violence Advocate will go to the home to teach victims the process (court procedures etc), or they can find them a safe house if needed.

Officer Richard Mellard - Five new Neighborhood Watches were set up last month. He is working with "The Arc" on organizing their Christmas light display. This year the Arc will be asking for donations only. They are also trying to make it more of a community event. Lawrence Elementary will be sending singers over and Mayberry Middle School will be doing their whole Christmas program on site. Newman University wants to be involved also. They will decorate ten trees this year.

Ed Koon – Asked that **Aaron** include the location, times and dates of upcoming events in his cover letter.

A motion was made and passed to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 p.m. (Gray/Benton)

David Lies	4631 S. Palisade	Tom & Colleen	2220 S. Walnut
Del Riley	2442 Laura	Jim Spencer	2745 N. Ohio 67219
Mark Raccuglia	5910 E. 2nd	Paul Fiscus	304 N. Flora
Chet Lacy	427 N. Doris	Joel Elsea	9432 Wyncroft 67205
Barbara Lacy	427 N. Doris	Chris Ballinger	2709 Keywest 97204
Greg Edwards	423 N. Baehr	Paul Gray	5923 W. 42nd S.Barbara
Haynes	1119 Munnell	Mark Armstrong	129 S. Parksdale
Dan Thornhurst	N. Woodlawn	Steve Kearnes	1200 W. 11th Topeka
Cheryl Thornhurst	N. Woodlawn	Paul Foster	10931 Dora Ct.
Tara Stout	510 Hendryx	Barry Stout	510 Hendryx

Respectfully Submitted,

Aaron Hamilton
Neighborhood Assistant, District IV